Mr. C. O. Madhavan: (*a*) The rule that only graduates should be appointed as Excise Range Inspectors was not in force at any time in the Excise Department.

(*b*) Yes.

Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai (*Commerce and Industry, South*): With reference to the answer "that the rule that only graduates should be appointed as Excise Range Inspectors was not in force at any time" may I know whether that rule is in force now?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan: No, Sir.

Residence of Sub-Registrars.

51. ***Mr. J. John Kattakayam**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there is any rule that Sub-Registrars should live within the limits of their jurisdiction;

(*b*) whether there are any in the State, who, in contravention of the above rule, attend to official duties while staying in their native places; and

(*c*) if so, who they are?

Rao Bahadur Dr.N. Kunjan Pillai: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No such instance has been brought to the notice of Government.

(*c*) In view of answer to (*b*) this does not arise.

Excise special party sent to Manjoor and other places

52. **Mr. J. John Kattakayam**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether Excise Inspector Mr. P. R Parameswaran Pillai and party have been appointed to detect illicit distillation in Manjoor, Ettumanur and Kottayam;

(*b*) whether they have submitted any report; and

(*c*) the substance of the report submitted by them?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan: (*a*) Yes, for the detection of malpractices.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The special party detected a few cases of illicit tapping

Mr J. John Kattakayam: ഇങ്ങിനെ പ്രത്യേകസ്ഥലത്തു ഒരു പാർട്ടിയെ അയക്കാനുള്ള കാരണമെന്താണു?

Mr. C O. Madhavan: അതിനെക്കുറിച്ചു ചില പരാതികൾ ജില്ലകം വന്നതുകൊണ്ടാണു അവിടെ പാർട്ടിയെ അയച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു.

Mr. J. John Kattakayam: മറ്റു സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽനിന്നും ഇങ്ങനെ വല്ല പരാതിയും വന്നിട്ടുള്ളതായി അറിയാമോ?

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Mr. C O. Madhavan: വേറേ സ്ഥലത്തുനിന്നും പരാതിവന്നിട്ടുണ്ട്. അതിനെപ്പറ്റി അന്വേഷണം നടത്തിയിട്ടുമുണ്ട്.

Mr. J John Kattakayam: ഞാൻതന്നെ മെമ്പക്കു നേരിട്ടെഴുതിഅയച്ചിട്ട് അതിനെപ്പറ്റി വല്ല നടപടിയും നടത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan: എഴുതിഅയച്ചുവെങ്കിൽ അതിനെപ്പറ്റി അന്വേഷണം നടത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ട്.

Mr. J. John Kattakayam: ഈ വിവരം ഞാൻ അതിനു ചുമതലപ്പെട്ട ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെ അറിയിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതായി അറിയാമോ?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan: നിശ്ചയമില്ല.

Mr. J. John Kattakayam: അതിലേക്കു വേണ്ട തെളിവുകൊടുക്കാമെന്നു പറഞ്ഞു എഴുതിഅയച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു ഞാനാണ്. അന്വേഷിച്ച വിവരം എന്നോടു പറഞ്ഞിട്ടില്ലാ എന്നു അറിയാമോ?

President: Was any action taken at all on the representation made by the honourable member furnishing certain information and offering to produce evidence and even undertaking to put his own hands in his own pocket?

Mr C. O. Madhavan: I am not sure whether such a representation was made by the honourable member. If he has made any representation appropriate action has been taken thereon.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai: Sir, is such an answer "that if such a representation was made, etc" admissible?

President: But does Mr. Madhavan now remember any such representation having been made by the honourable member?

Mr C. O. Madhavan: No, Sir, I do not remember.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai: May I know whether the special party has been recalled before the investigation was completed by the party?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan: No. The special party returned after the completion of the work entrusted to them.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: May I know the period during which the special party was working in that area?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan: For eight or nine days.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: May I know the number of cases detected by the special party during those days?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan: 21 cases.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: May I know the nature of the cases detected by them?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan: Cases of illicit tapping.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: May I know whether such cases could not be detected by the Range Inspectors?

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Mr. C. O. Madhavan: Local officers also could have detected such cases.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: May I know whether the Range Inspectors have detected any case during the period the special party was working in that particular area?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan: During those eight or nine days I cannot say now whether the Range Inspector detected any case.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: May I know whether the special party was working in collaboration with the Range Inspector?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan: No. They were working independently.

Contractors in the Excise Department.

53. ***Mr. J. John Kattakayam**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether contractors taking part in the auction sale of shops by the Excise Department generally do so after encumbering their properties at about the time of the auction in the name of some near relative for a sum higher than the actual price of the properties;

(*b*) whether, after competing and taking up the shops, the contractors pay up the instalments regularly if they get an abnormal profit and fail to do so if the profit is otherwise;

(*c*) whether the report of the Proverthikar is now being obtained in regard to the tax paid by the contractor who bids in the auction;

(*d*) whether, by so doing, any knowledge is gained regarding the muddled state of their affairs, the liability of heir properties, etc;

(*e*) whether many persons at present who are defaulters in the matter of excise dues have not given benami possession of their properties and are not at their sweet will enjoying them as their own; and

(*f*) whether they could not recover the whole of the arrears, if such properties are taken possession of by them?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan: (*a*) Government have no information.

(*b*) Default sometimes occurs and the cause in some cases may be loss sustained by the contractor.

(*c*) The solvency of the contractor is certified to by the Proverthikar.

(*d*) By doing so accurate information is not always obtained about the liabilities of a contractor.

(*e*) Instances have come to light where defaulters alienated their properties to defraud Government.

(*f*) In such cases action is taken to proceed against such properties.

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